SITE DESCRIPTION

Facility name: Interstate Pollution Control

Location: Bounded on the South by Prairie Ave. and on the east by Magnolia Ave. Rockford, IL.

EPA Region: V

Person(s) in charge of the facility: Robert Wengrow - IEPA, Rockford (815) 987-7404

Name of Reviewer: Michael R Kulbersh (FIT) Date: 3-4-87

General description of the facility: Kathleen J. Gelly (FIT)

(For example: landfill, surface impoundment, pile, container; types of hazardous substances; location of the facility; contamination route of major concern; types of information needed for rating; agency action, etc.)

Interstate Pollution Control operated from 1974 to 1982 as a hazardous waste Storage facility for 20-25 local industrial facilities typical waste hauled by IPC and sometime stored on site included industrial solvents, paint sludges, waste oils, and cyanide wastes. In 1979, 1200 barrels and contaminated soil were removed from the site

Scores: S_M = 46.01 (S_{gw} = 19.54 S_{sw} = Ø S_a = Ø)

S_{FE} = Ø

S_{DC} = 62.50

FIGURE 1
HRS COVER SHEET

10/2/87

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Location and Physiography

Peoples Avenue Landfill and Interstate Pollution Control (IPC) are located in the City of Rockford, Winnebago County, Illinois. Specifically, the study area for these two sites comprises the Southeast quarter of Section 34 and the Southwest quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 35, Township 44 North, Range 1 East (Figure 1). The study area is bordered on the west by the Rock River; on the north by Blackhawk Park Avenue; on the east by the Burlington-Northern Railroad; and on the south by Harrison Road. Quaker Avenue runs east-west through the center of the study area. IPC is on the north side of that street and Peoples Avenue Landfill is on the south side.

In general, Winnebago County is characterized by broad, rolling uplands, rising 100 to 200 feet above numerous alluviated valleys. The study area is located in one of these valleys containing 300-400 feet of glacial outwash, sand and gravel deposits. The Rock River forms the major drainage way for the area and is the focal point for a well integrated regional drainage system.

2.2 Climate

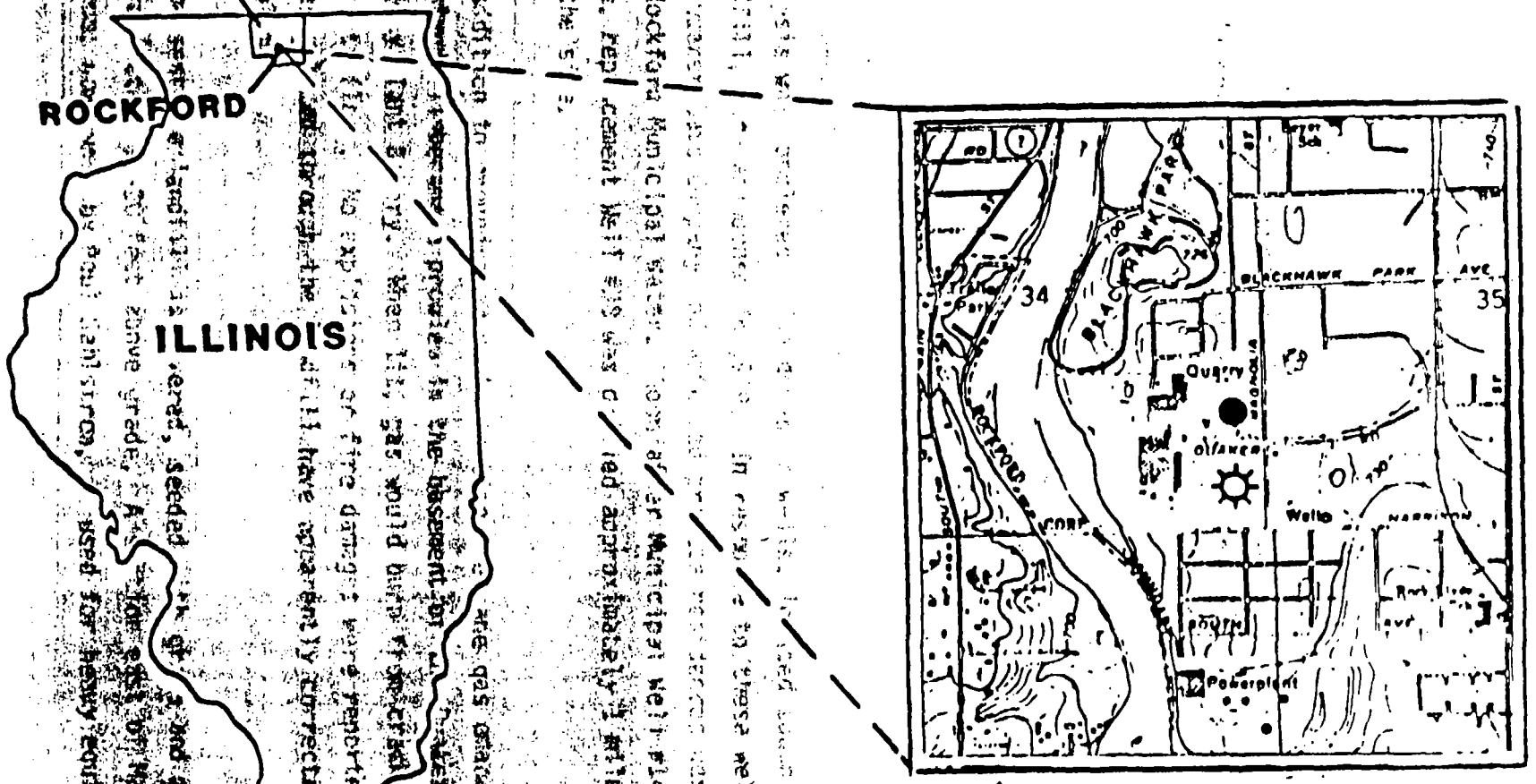
Winnebago County has a continental climate with warm summers and cold winters. The average annual precipitation is about 35 inches, the average pan and lake evaporation is 30 inches per annum, leaving a net precipitation of 5 inches per year. Precipitation highs generally occur in spring and summer and lows during fall and winter months (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1941, P. 51).

2.3 Site History

2.3.1 Peoples Avenue Landfill

The Peoples Avenue Landfill was formerly a sand and gravel pit. In 1947, the City of Rockford purchased the site for municipal and industrial waste disposal. Three pits, approximately 30-40 feet deep

FIGURE 1
SITE LOCATION MAP



were filled during the operating years of the landfill. Wastes were dumped directly into the groundwater that surfaced in these pits. Records of amounts and types of hazardous waste accepted were not kept. Since Rockford has numerous screw and tool manufacturing industries, cyanide bearing plating wastes, heavy metals and toxic and ignitable solvents were thought to be present. The site was operated as an open dump until the mid-1950's. Daily cover was used from the 1950's to final closure in 1972. Cover material included fly ash from a small on-site incinerator and foundry sand from a nearby foundry.

Prior to this study there was evidence that groundwater had become contaminated in the area. From 1966 to 1970 a total of nine wells were abandoned due to "offensive taste and odors" (Shuster, 1976). Wells affected included four production wells at the Quaker Oats Company, Rockford Municipal Well #14 and four shallow domestic wells. The Quaker Oats wells and Rockford Well #14 were reportedly contaminated with high total dissolved solids and high mineral content. They were abandoned in 1966 and 1970 respectively. At that time no organic analysis was completed. The domestic wells, located south of the landfill, were abandoned in 1969. In response to these well closures, the Quaker Oats Company and affected private residences were connected to Rockford Municipal Water. Soon after Municipal Well #14 was shut down, replacement Well #38 was drilled approximately 1 mile southeast of the site.

In addition to groundwater contamination, methane gas emanating from the landfill became a problem in the basement of the Quaker Oats Company Plant Bakery. When lit, gas would burn from cracks in the concrete floor. No explosions or fire damages were reported. Venting pipes, placed through the landfill have apparently corrected this problem.

At present the landfill is covered, seeded with grass and mounded approximately 10-20 feet above grade. A section east of Magnolia Avenue, now owned by Paul Sahlstrom, is used for heavy equipment

storage. Another smaller section also east of Magnolia Avenue, is used for a drum recycling/pallet storage operation. The homes once located south of the landfill were removed during urban renewal and replaced with light industrial buildings.

2.3.2 IPC

Interstate Pollution Control (IPC) is located at the northwest corner of Magnolia Street and Peoples Avenue, directly north of Peoples Avenue Landfill (Figure 1). From 1974 to 1982 it operated as a hazardous waste storage facility for 20 to 25 local industrial facilities. Wastes were transported by IPC in drums and tanks and stock piled on site until permits for transfer to approved disposal areas were obtained.

Typical wastes hauled by IPC and sometimes stored on-site, included cyanide waste from electro-platers, paint sludges and residues, industrial solvents and waste oils from industry and service stations. Waste oils were reclaimed on-site with a series of underground tanks then sold to local dealers. Poor hazardous waste management practices included use of an unlined surface impoundment, leaking tanks and leaking drums. Figure 2 shows location of the surface impoundment.

In March of 1979, at the request of U.S. EPA., the National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC) collected samples from ponded liquids and soils on-site. Cyanide was detected in every sample. Heavy metals and volatile organic compounds were also detected in significant concentrations. A clean-up of the surface impoundment was ordered in December 1979. Some liquids and contaminated soils were removed but it is unknown if sludges from the bottom of the impoundment were removed before covering.

As part of a settlement with IEPA, a number of soil borings were drilled and three monitoring wells installed in October 1982. A fourth well was installed in 1983 by the IEPA. Samples taken from these wells indicated that groundwater contamination had occurred. An adequate upgradient well was never installed, so this became a prime

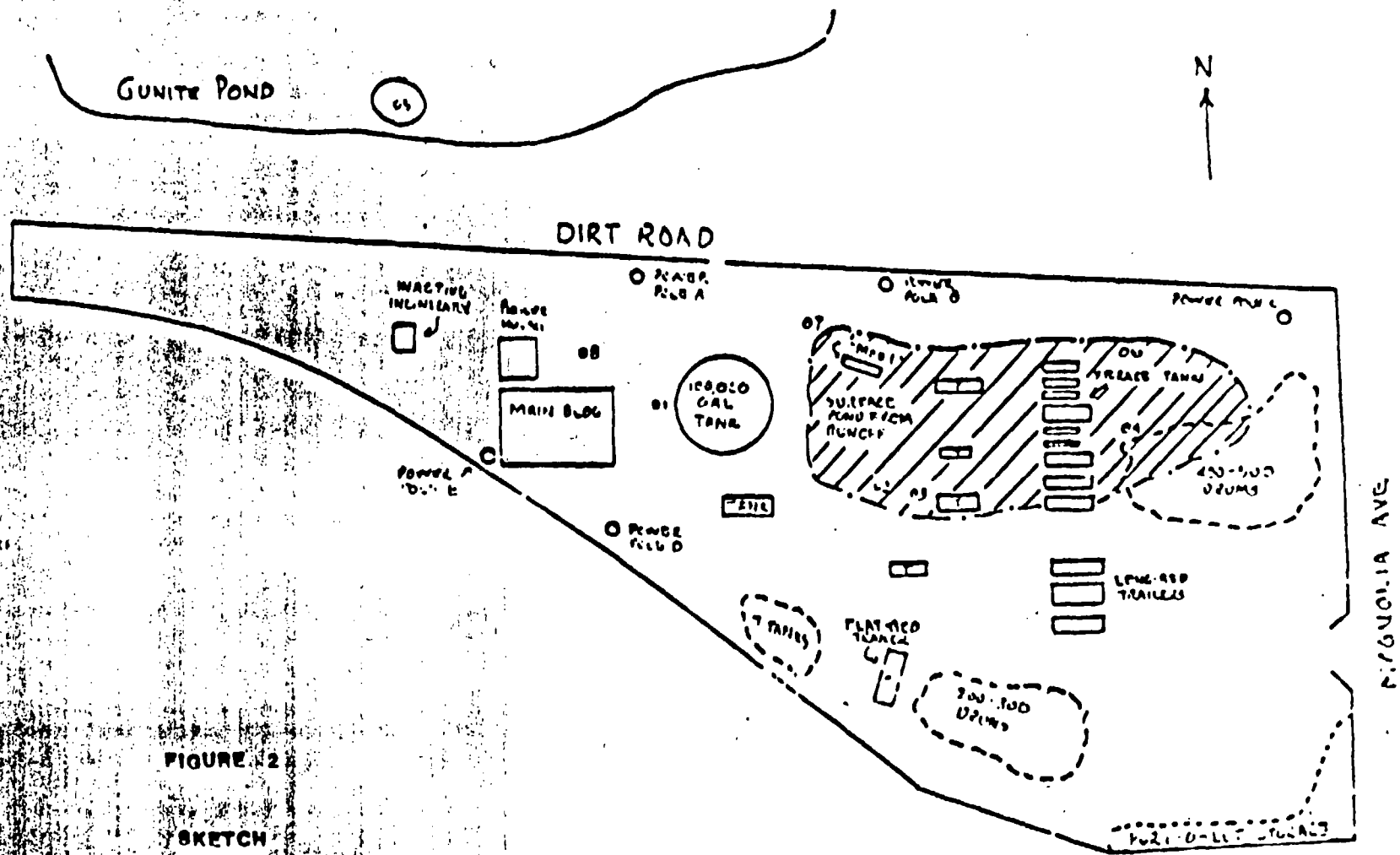


FIGURE 2

SKETCH

INTERSTATE POLLUTION CONTROL

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

TAKEN FROM N.E.I.C REPORT JUNE, 1979

goal for the FIT drilling program. Well locations around IPC are shown on Plate 1. At present the site is still being used for waste oil reclamation, scrap iron storage and Port-O-Let storage.

2.4 Previous Studies

No other site specific hydrogeologic studies have been done at Peoples Avenue Landfill.

Monitoring well installations and soil borins were completed by IEPA at IPC in 1982 and 1983. These wells were used in the FIT investigation and analytical results from previous IEPA sampling are included in Section 5.2 of this Report.

[illegible] to U.S. EPA contract [illegible] chemical analysis. [illegible] [illegible] borings were advanced with [illegible] hollow stem augers only, with the exception of MW-12S and MW-[illegible]. Sand formation caving and blow-up into the hollow stem augers necessitated the use of drilling mud in these borings. In all cases, drilling mud was flushed from the bore hole with clean water before well installation was completed. Soil samples were collected for visual classification with a 2-inch outside diameter (O.D.) split spoon sampler. Standard penetration tests in advance of the auger borings were performed in accordance with A.S.T.M. standards. Split spoon samples were collected at 5-foot and 10-foot intervals. Boring logs with detailed stratigraphic descriptions are shown in Appendix I.

Decontamination

In accordance with [illegible] specifications, the drilling and tools [illegible] cleaned prior to [illegible] mobilization for both drilling